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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops Returning to Plauen

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EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 18 to 20 October 1950

DATE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE PREPARED 21 November 1950

REFERENCES

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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Infanterie Kaserne.

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1. During the day and night of 19 October 1950, the Soviet unit which had previously been stationed in the Infanterie Kaserne, Plauen (U 51/K 12), returned to its billets, coming from a summer camp. The unit appeared to have been increased by a howitzer battery with four guns of about 100 mm. When the unit left for summer camp it took only eight guns.

the unit quartered in the installation on 20 October had 16 guns in its howitzer battalion. The number of troops, including the officers billeted outside the barracks, was estimated at not more than 500 men.

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Hindenburg Kaserne.

3. Since 18 October the Hindenburg Kaserne was again occupied to capacity by 800 to 1,200 men. The troops wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and belonged to the unit which had previously been quartered there. There were a large number of recruits, who, [redacted] appeared to outnumber the trained personnel of the unit. [redacted]

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[redacted] AT guns of 37 and about 70 mm were observed with the unit which returned. An SP gun was parked in the barracks yard. On 20 October, about 200 recruits left the billeting area, marching to the hospital. [redacted]

[redacted] A convoy observed at the Hindenburg Kaserne consisted of about 35 motor vehicles [redacted]

4. A barrier had been erected in Neuendorferstrasse, at the corner of Mitschurinstrasse. The Neuendorferstrasse was blocked to civilian traffic and guarded by sentries. Mikarda Huchstrasse, formerly Verderstrasse, was still off limits, preventing civilians from approaching the barracks installation there. 25X1

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Artillerie Kaserne.

5. One building of the Artillerie Kaserne quartered an AT artillery unit of 100 to 150 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The unit, apparently a company, moved into its former quarters when it returned from summer camp. On 20 October, the unit had ten AT guns of 50 to 75 mm, while it had only eight guns when it left for summer camp.

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6. Another building of the Artillerie Kaserne was still occupied by a signal unit of about 60 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets, some with signal insignia. A wooden observation platform was on top of a heavily damaged, unoccupied building next to the quarters of the signal unit. A rod antenna, about 30 cm high, was fitted in the center of the platform, from which a wire led to the billets of the signal unit. The observation platform was occupied day and night by a sentry with field glasses. A special trailer with three windows was blocked up in the barracks yard, not far from the quarters. Five to ten meters from this trailer there stood a pole 8 to 10 meters high braced by four guy wires.

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A truck with a rod antenna two meters high was parked near a former stable for two weeks.

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The hitherto unoccupied riding hall of the Artillerie Kaserne was being reconditioned. *

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* Comment. The report indicates that the components of the 39th Gds Ltz Rifle Div from Plauen returned to their quarters about 20 October 1950. Other reports stated that elements of this division returned to Meiningen and Rudolstadt about the same time. See

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the 112th Gds Ltz Rifle Regt of the 39th Gds Ltz Rifle Div, definitely confirming the regiment in the Hindenburg Kaserne, Plauen, up to 18 October 1950. Based on the weapons in the barracks installations, it is believed that the Infanterie Kaserne quarters the 87th Gun Artz Regt, possibly with an organic howitzer battalion; the Artillerie Kaserne quarters either the AT artillery company and the AT artillery platoons of the 112th Gds Ltz Rifle Regt, or the AT artillery battalion of the division.

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